

Remarks

In the foregoing claim amendments, claims 1, 3-6, 8-10, 14, 17-20, 23, 25-29 and 31-32 have been amended. Pending in the application are claims 1-32, of which claims 1, 14, 23 and 29 are independent. The following comments address all stated grounds for rejection, and the Applicant respectfully submits that the presently pending claims, as identified above, are now in a condition for allowance.

Objections to the Drawings

The drawings are objected to under C.F.R. 1. 83(a) because the “management facility” recited in claim 29 is not shown in the drawings. In the foregoing claim amendments, Applicant has amended claim 29 to change “a management facility” to “an operating system,” which is depicted in Fig. 1. In light of the claim amendments, Applicant requests the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the objections to the drawings under C.F.R. 1. 83(a).

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. 112

Claims 1-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The Examiner notes in the Office Action that “plurality of second data structure,” “third structures,” “a third structure,” “selected one of said second data structure,” and “current time” recited in claims 1, 14, 23 and 29 are indefinite. The Examiner also notes that “providing a plurality of linked lists referenced by said memory locations” and “a node” recited in claim 14 are indefinite. The Examiner further notes that “a switching apparatus” recited in claim 29 is indefinite. In forgoing claim amendments, Applicant has amended claims 1, 14, 23 and 29 to clarify the scope of the claimed invention and to address all of the issues raised by the Examiner. In light of the claim amendments, Applicant submits that the claims are now in condition for allowance, and requests the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 1-32 under U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. 112

Claims 1-13 and 29-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being incomplete. The Examiner notes in the Office Action that there is no relationship established

between the list and other elements recited in claim 1. The Examiner also notes that there is no relationship established between the processor and other elements recited in claim 29. In forgoing claim amendments, Applicant has amended claims 1 and 29 to address these issues raised by the Examiner. In light of the claim amendments, Applicant submits that the claims are now in condition for allowance, and requests the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 1-13 and 29-32 under U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 1-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant's Admitted Prior Art ("AAPA") in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0184318 ("the '318 reference"). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection for the following reasons.

The claimed invention in independent claims 1 and 14 relates a method for maintaining a list of timed-events performed by an electronic device. The method provides a *first data structure (array of memory location in claim 14)* for the timed-event list. The first data structure is of a size larger than the expected number of events occurring in the electronic device at any one time. The method also provides a *second plurality of data structures (linked lists in claim 14)* referenced by the first data structure. *The second plurality of data structures are referenced by different locations in the first data structure.* The method further inserts a *third data structure (node in claim 14)* into one of the second plurality of data structures referenced by the first data structure. The third data structure encapsulates data about a timed event performed by the electronic device. The one of the second plurality of data structures is selected based on the time for execution of a timed event encapsulated by the third data structure, and the size of the first data structure. Independent claim 23 is a medium claim that parallels claim 1. Independent claim 29 is directed to a switching apparatus reciting similar limitations.

The "Background of the Invention" portion of the pending application, which is referred to as "AAPA" by the Examiner, describes a conventional method for managing a list of timed events.

The '318 reference relates to a method for utilizing a mobile device to share a data object.

Applicant respectfully submits that the cited references fail to teach or suggest all of the limitations of the claimed invention. Applicant submits that the AAPA and '318 references fail to teach or suggest providing a second plurality of data structures (linked lists) referenced by the first data structure (array of memory location) wherein the second plurality of data structures are referenced by different locations in the first data structure, as recited in claims 1, 14, 23 and 29. The Examiner indicates in the Office Action that this feature of the claimed invention is taught in AAPA. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

In the claimed invention, the first data structure (array of memory location) holds *multiple references* to the second plurality of data structures (linked lists). In particular, the second plurality of data structures are referenced by *different locations* in the first data structure. AAPA discloses a *single linked list* for maintaining a list of timed events. AAPA also discloses a *single pointer* that holds a *single reference* to the *single linked list*. AAPA does not teach or suggest that the first data structure holds *multiple references* to the second plurality of data structures. AAPA does not teach or suggest that the second plurality of data structures are referenced by different locations in the first data structure, as recited in the claimed invention.

Additionally, Applicant submits that the AAPA and '318 references fail to teach or suggest that one of the second plurality of data structures (linked lists) is selected based on the time for execution of a timed event encapsulated by the third data structure (node), and the size of the first data structure (array of memory location), as recited in claims 1, 14, 23 and 29. The Examiner recognizes in the Office Action that this feature of the claimed invention is not taught by AAPA. The '318 reference is cited by the Examiner to compensate for this deficiency.

Applicant submits that the '318 reference does not teach this feature of the claimed invention. The '318 reference teaches a method for utilizing a mobile device to share a data object. The '318 reference specifically teaches that "when a user selects a data object from the list of data objects, the user obtains access to the reduced size version of that data object. See, the '318 reference, paragraph [0033]. The '318 reference teaches that the reduced size version of the object is used for the user to verify the selection of the data object. In contrast, the claimed invention recites that one of the second plurality of data structures (lined lists) is selected based

on the time for execution of a timed event encapsulated by the third data structure (node), and the size of *the first data structure (array of memory location), which references the second plurality of data structures*. The '318 reference does not teach that one of the data objects is selected based on *the size of a data structure (a list of data objects) that references the data objects*.

Additionally, Applicant submits that the AAPA and '318 references fail to teach or suggest that the first data structure (array of memory location) is of a size larger than the expected number of events occurring in the electronic device at any one time, as recited in claims 1, 14 and 23. The Examiner notes in the Office Action that this feature of the claimed invention is obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Applicant notes that the Examiner's assertion is not supported by any substantial evidence. Rather, Applicant submits that the Examiner's conclusion is based on impermissible hindsight reasoning. The claimed invention uses a first data structure (array of memory location) holding multiple references to a second plurality of data structures for maintaining a list of timed events. In the claimed invention, the first data structure is of a size larger than the expected number of events occurring in the electronic device at any one time. Applicant believes that this feature of the claimed invention is not obvious, and requests the Examiner cite a specific reference to support the Examiner's position.

In light of the aforementioned arguments, Applicant respectfully submits that the AAPA and '318 references fail to teach or suggest all of the limitations of independent claims 1, 14, 23 and 29. Other claims that depend upon one of claims 1, 14, 23 and 29 are not rendered obvious over the cited prior art references. Applicant therefore requests the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 1-32 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), and pass the claims to allowance.

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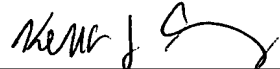
Docket No.: SYCS-038/P89

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue. If, however, the Examiner considers that further obstacles to allowance of these claims persist, we invite a telephone call to Applicant's representative.

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Respectfully submitted,

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